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Executive Secretary
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MEMORANDUM

#### TOP SECRET

# THE VICE PRESIDENT WASHINGTON

August 5, 1986

MEMORANDUM FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

FOR

SECRETARY GEORGE SHULTZ ADMIRAL JOHN POINDEXTER SECRETARY JAMES BAKER

SUBJECT: Mubarak and His Debt.

This is an addendum to previous reporting coming out of my one-on-one with Mubarak.

He presented me with the attached.

He cited his debt situation as "very dangerous", we need relief "now, urgently".

"I don't want to reach the point when I cannot pay." He called it "auctioneering" with the people of the U.S.A.

He is paying 14-16% on arms objecting at "too much" and "destabilizing".

He asked me to ask Treasury "to treat us the same as Mexico".

He talked to Kohl, Thacher, Chirac who, he says, promise to help.

He urged us to get the IMF to be more flexible.

"Doing more now would create an impossible internal problem."

He cited the decline in oil from \$28 per bbl to \$6 per bbl as the main reason for his problem.

Mubarak mentioned he would do more with privitization. He made a strong plea for transferring the \$110 million that he has coming now. (Today on the way to the airport Prime Minister Lutfi told me he was announcing the customs changes next week.

Mubarak, claiming to have made many reforms, kept stating that he can't make more reforms now. "I desperately need help". I must avoid a 'crash' with my people."

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MEMORANDUM

#### TOP SECRET

# THE VICE PRESIDENT WASHINGTON

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I had meetings with all the top people in Egypt -- President, Prime Minister, Foreign Minister, Defense Minister -- all mentioned with great urging the need for financial help.

GEORGE BUSH

cc: Ambassador Pelletreau Don Gregg

### TOP SECRET



STER OF STATE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE DEVELOPMENT.

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#### 1- Egypt Economy

# 1-1- Egypt Resources Tong as a release to restauration game of

Egypt is not rich in natural resources, however it does have a good base for sustained growth.

- Fair water resources and enough to increase it agriculture production.
- Fair industrial capacity and enough to satisfy a good part of local demand and for export.
- Surplus of skilled workers and technicians, 3 million of them are still working in the Arab World.

# 1-2- Egypt Short Term Problems 1986-1988

- 1- A deficit in the budget which reached 14% of national income, and should be reduced to 10%.
- 2- A deficit in the balance of payment which is expected to be 3000 million dollars per year.

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STER OF STATE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE DEVELOPMENT.

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- 3- An inflation rate of 20% this year and is increasing steadily.
- 4- Population growth of 2.7% per year. This year Egypt expects to have 1.3 million inhabitants.

# 2- Serious, Courageous Confrontation to Economic Problems

Egypt started a comprehensive program for economic reform addressed towards these problems.

PROBLEM	Measures Taken
1- <u>Deficit in the</u> <u>Budget</u>	Cutting Expenses  1- Cutting government operating expenses by 25% (Net savings is 400 million).  2- Freezing automatic employment in the government for the first time since 1967.  3- Allowing increase of wages by 5% only instead of 10%.  4- Cutting subsidies by 15% (Net saving is 250 million).



STER OF STATE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE DEVELOPMENT.

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Problem	Measures Taken
	Increasing Resources  1- Introducing Comprehensive Custom Reform that will stop all exemptions except those granted to armed forces. Expected income is 800 million.  2- Increase of direct taxes (sales taxes) on consumer durables and luxury goods. Expected income is 600 million pounds.  3- Increase of gasoline prices by 20% (Second increase in two Years). Expected income is 150 million pounds.  4- Lifting Control on Prices of Industrial Goods local travelling and teli-communication and postal services to allow for full coverage of cost and a fair margin of profit (Expected income is 500 million pounds.  5- Elemination of subsidy to air-ticket by increasing prices of tickets by 60%.  6- Special tax on travelling abroad (10% of the value of ticket).



STER OF STATE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE DEVELOPMENT.

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	<u> </u>
Problem	Measures Taken
2- Balance of Pay-	Three main reasons behind the deficit this
ment Deficit	year and for the next three years:
·	1- The payments Egypt has to make for U.S.A.,
	France, Italy and Spain to serve existing
	debt. Egypt borrowed at high interest rates
	(ranges between 12% to 16%).
	2- The decline in Egypt main resources: Export
	of oil and transfers from Egyptian workers
	working abroad.
	3- The decline in income from tourism. Tourist
	traffic to Egypt declined by 40% in 1986.
	Measures Taken:
-	Cutting Demand for Foreign Currency
	1- Increasing share of the private sector in
	importation at market exchange rate. It is
	now more than 60% of total imports.
	2- Putting special tax on travelling abroad.
	3- Special taxes on imports of consumer luxuries.
	4- Dollar tax on every article purchased from
-	the free zone.



STER OF STATE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE DEVELOPMENT.

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Problem	Measures Taken
	<ul><li>5- Cutting government expenditure abroad by 25%.</li><li>6- Special incentives to Investments with higher percentage of local components such as General Motor.</li></ul>
	7- Encouraging off-set trade and paying for imports through exports.
	Increasing Country Resources
	1- Simplification of exchange rates to help en- courage exports.
	2- Drastic administrative reform to facilitate exports.
	3- Encourage private effort to promote sales of touristic package and charter flights to Egypt.
	4- Issuing dollar bonds at higher interest rate.
	5- Special incentives for purchasing real estate by non-Egyptians.



STER OF STATE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE DEVELOPMENT.

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Problem	Measures Taken
3- <u>Inflation Rate</u>	<ul> <li>1- Cutting the deficit in the budget is hoped to help reduce rate of inflation.</li> <li>2- The Central Bank is implementing measure to control the volume of credit.</li> <li>3- Drastic management reform will be introduced in the management of the public firms. private techniques will be applied.</li> </ul>
	This is not emough we believe the real control will come through the strengthening of the production base in egypt.  U.S.A and Europeans could help a lot here through massive serious measures:
	<ol> <li>Re-scheduling of debt to allow for the use of our resources in getting supplies and material to the production sector.</li> <li>Support Egypt request for stand-by fund from IMF.</li> <li>Support Egypt request for production sector loans from the World Bank.</li> </ol>



TER OF STATE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE DEVELOPMENT.

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Measures Taken
4- Support paying back debt in the form of exports from Egypt.
5- Immediate relief from the burden of military debt.
6- Technical free-aid in up-grading and
increasing productivity of the agricultural and industrial sector.
Egypt realize the complicated nature of the population problem, and the difficulties encountered in controling growth because of social and religious reasons. However, a comprehensive program is being implemented and monitered. It includes:  1- Making family planning devices available to every family.  2- Increasing employment opportunities to women, and extending soft credit to home production.  3- Controling illiteracy since education has direct relation to number of children in the family.  4- Implementation of national program for child health care, since it affects the number of